



U.S. Department of Justice

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MEDIA RELEASE

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**CARDIGAN MOUNTAIN SCHOOL TEACHER SENTENCED
IN CHILD PORNOGRAPHY OFFENSE**

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono announced that Paul Getzel, 32, a resident and teacher at the Cardigan Mountain School in Canaan, New Hampshire, appeared in United States District Court on January 3, 2003, and was sentenced to forty-one months in prison. On October 8, 2002, Getzel pleaded guilty to one count of transmitting child pornography in violation of 18 U.S.C.A. § 2252A.

The defendant was indicted in October, 2001, after an investigation by the United States Customs Service, acting on information from the police in the Republic of Germany, revealed that the defendant had transmitted images of child pornography through internet newsgroups. Computers and computer software seized from the defendant's residence contained numerous images of child pornography.

United States Attorney Colantuono stated: "Cases involving the abuse or attempted abuse of children, including trafficking in child pornography are among the highest priorities of matters handled by the United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Hampshire." Attorney Colantuono praised the United States Customs Service for continuing its diligent work in bringing to justice those who collect and trade child pornography.

This prosecution was handled by Assistant United States Attorney Helen White Fitzgibbon.